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edge of the sink of the die, and melted lead is then poured into the cavity. When cool, the hammer is allowed to fall upon the lead, to which it firmly adheres by means of a plate roughed as a rasp, which is called the *lick-up*.

The silver used for the purpose of the mountings is also of standard quality, and is rolled to the required thickness; several pieces of the requisite size are then placed between pieces of copper of the same substance, and put upon the face of the die. The hammer is then raised and allowed to fall gently upon them. This operation is continued for some time, gradually increasing the fall of the hammer, and diminishing the number of pieces struck, until they are forced to the bottom of the die; it is necessary occasionally to anneal the mountings.

The mounts being struck as described are now filled with solder, consisting of tin and lead, and afterwards secured by wires to the article to be ornamented, the body being covered with a mixture of glue and whiting to prevent the solder from staining the surface; they are then soldered on by means of a gas blowpipe.

The article is next boiled in a solution of pearl-ash or soda, and scoured with fine Calais sand. The mounts are polished by a lathe, as in the case of silver articles, with rotten-stone and oil, then cleaned with whiting, and finished with rouge; a scratch-brush of brass-wire is used for deadening the parts required, and the plain surfaces are burnished with tools of blood-stone or steel, soap and water being used in this operation, which is performed by women.

ON SPADE-HUSBANDRY.

By H. Fardon, Esq.

The object of this communication is to shew the importance, in a national point of view generally throughout the country, of an improved mode of cultivation by means of spade-husbandry.

After entering into details with respect to the two systems of agriculture chiefly pursued throughout the kingdom, which are known as the *low system* and the *high system*, the former being based on the system of annual tenancy, the latter on that of granting leases; the writer proceeds with an examination of the third system, or spade-husbandry, and quotes, among others, the following case, as shewing the great profit to be realised by its judicious adoption:—

The experiment was made on two acres of land for twenty-seven years, and on two other acres of land for fifteen years, alternate crops of wheat and potatoes being regularly produced, and the land, which is stiff clay, turned up with a fork ten inches deep.

The cost of the wheat crop, including sowing, keeping clean, reaping, and thrashing, was at the rate of 1*l.* 17*s.* per acre; and of the potato-crop, including breast-ploughing, wheat-stubble, forking land, planting, cleaning, getting-up, and harvesting, 6*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.* per acre, the average being 4*l.* 6*s.* 1½*d.* per acre; while the annual produce realised the sum of 93*l.*, being 69*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.* above the expenses,* or at the rate of 17*l.* 6*s.* 4½*d.* per acre surplus, subject only to deductions for rent and parochial taxes. It must be remarked, that this enormous profit was effected by the sale of a great part of the produce, and not by its consumption on the land, which is the prevailing custom.

As a further proof of the adequate productive powers of the system the writer advocates, he adduces the well-known case of Mrs. Davies Gilbert, of Eastbourne, who, through her benevolent exertions, has succeeded in establishing self-supporting national schools, by receiving rent for the land occupied by the master, who instructs the children in the usual course of education in the morning, and employs them on his land in the afternoon.

Mr. Fardon strenuously recommends that a portion of land should be attached to every country union, to be cultivated by the able-bodied poor, according to the third system, the effect of which would necessarily be to reduce the poor's-rate in every parish where the plan might be carried into effect.

He further suggests, that the redundancy of manufacturing labour might be well turned to account in the cultivation of the soil by spade-husbandry.

MR. LEE'S SAFETY RAILWAY CARRIAGE.

THE object of Mr. Lee's invention is to prevent railway accidents, arising either from the breaking of axles, or from carriages running off the rails. To obtain these important desiderata, Mr. Lee introduces bearings of a different construction to those in

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	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
* 24 Tons of potatoes at 50*s.*	60	0	0			
80 Bushels of wheat at 7*s.*	28	0	0			
2 Tons of straw at 50*s.*	5	0	0			
				93	0	0
Deduct—						
Manual wages as above detailed, at 4*l.* 6*s.* 1½*d.* per acre	17	4	6			
Seed-potatoes for 2 acres	5	0	0			
Seed-wheat	1	10	0			
				23	14	6
				69	5	6